

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest, not further the political agenda of its owner. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. In the case of Sinclair, we get corporate power being used to advance a personal, political goal. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, or what's being personally promoted by a CEO, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Sinclair's license should be revoked. They have clearly ignored their fiduciary duty and abused the public trust. Thank you.